

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07 SP-02  
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 /140 W  
-----104569 082008Z /21

R 070340Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY SUVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7482

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

UNCLAS SUVA 0957

DEPT PASS US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

USDOC/BIC - T.O.P.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, BGEN, FJ

SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC BUREAU FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION RE-  
QUEST FOR U.S. TECHNICAL ENERGY TEAM VISIT

1. SEVERAL MINISTERS AND OTHER LEADERS HAVE RESPONDED WITH  
COMPLIMENTARY COMMENTS TO THE AMBASSADOR'S LETTER WHICH CALLED  
THEIR ATTENTION TO A COPY OF THE HONOLULU SPEECH MAY 10, AT THE  
EAST-WEST CENTER, BY VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE.

2. ONE SUCH RESPONSE WAS FROM DEPUTY DIRECTOR (R.J. GATES) OF  
THE SOUTH PACIFIC BUREAU FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION :SPEC) WHICH  
EXPRESSES SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFER TO SEND  
"TECHNICAL TEAMS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO HELP  
ASSESS REGIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES, STRENGTHEN ENERGY PLANNING,  
AND IDENTIFY NEW AREAS OF COLLABORATION IN THE  
DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF CONVENTIONAL AND NONCONVENTIONAL  
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FUELS."

3. ACCORDING TO GATES, SPEC WOULD BE INTERESTED IN MEETING  
WITH ONE OF THESE TEAMS OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS SHOULD THEY VISIT  
IN THIS AREA. "EVEN MORE EXCITING" GATES SAID, "WOULD BE THE  
POSSIBILITY OF THE UNITED STATES SETTING UP AN EXPERIMENTAL/  
DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM OF LOW-COST, LOW-MAINTENANCE ENERGY PLANTS

SUITABLE FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES AND ISOLATED ISLANDS WITHIN THE SOUTH PACIFIC."

4. THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENERGY POLICY FOR THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC IS A MAJOR CONCERN OF THIS REGIONAL ORGANIZATION WHICH RECOGNIZES THAT THE AREA WILL HAVE A RAPIDLY EXPANDING REQUIREMENT FOR ENERGY, AT LEAST FOR THE NEXT DECADE, AS CURRENT INDUSTRIAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TAKE HOLD. MUCH OF THIS ENERGY WILL HAVE TO BE IMPORTED AS PETROLEUM PRODUCTS. IT IS THEREFORE IN THE INTEREST OF THESE COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS THE U.S., THAT THE ENERGY NEEDS AND THE GENERATING CAPACITIES OF THE DEVELOPING ISLAND COUNTRIES OF THIS REGION BE ASSESSED AT AN EARLY DATE TO SEEK A SOLUTION FOR THE FUTURE.

5. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, ALL SPEC MEMBERS ARE DEVELOPING ISLAND COUNTRIES (FIJI - SUVA IS THE HEADQUARTERS FOR SPEC - COOK ISLANDS, GILBERT ISLANDS, NAURU, PIUE, PAPAU NEW GUINEA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, TONGA, AND WESTRN SAMOA). COMPARED WITH ONE ANOTHER, THERE ARE WIDE DIVERGENCIES IN SIZE, NATURAL RESOURCES, INCOME, POPULATION, ETC., BUT COMPARED WITH COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE REGION ALL SPEC ISLAND MEMBERS HAVE SOME CHARACTERISTICS IN COMMON.

6. IN LIGHT OF V.P.MONDALES'S OFFER DESIGNED TO HIGHLIGHT THE NEW ROLE OF THE U.S. IN THE PACIFIC, EMBASSY SUVA CONSIDERS UNCLASSIFIED

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IT IMPERATIVE WE RESPOND POSITIVELY TO SPEC'S INITIATIVE TO TAKE UP THE VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFER. WE COULD BEGIN WITH A CAREFUL SELECTION OF WRITTEN MATERIAL (ARTICLES, BOOKS) WHICH CONVEY THE CURRENT STAGE OF RESEARCH IN THE US. FOR ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND PROCEED WITH PLANS TO SEND A TEAM TO CONSIDER THE FEASIBILITY OF THE "EXCITING" POSSIBILITY MENTIONED IN PARA. 3 ABOVE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ENERGY, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, VISITS  
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**Draft Date:** 07 jun 1978  
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